

California Department of Aging

Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA)

Program Code - 3905300

Description

Signed into law July 2008, the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) provides funding to help Medicare beneficiaries apply for two valuable benefits: the Low Income Subsidy “Extra Help” (LIS/Extra Help); and the Medicare Savings Program (MSP). This funding helps states to increase their outreach and awareness efforts to reach consumers with low incomes who are unaware of these valuable benefits. Federal MIPPA funding is allocated to Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Programs (HICAPs), and Aging and Disability Resource Connections (ADRCs) to provide this outreach and education, as to assist Medicare beneficiaries who are not currently receiving these benefits in applying for them.

Benefits

Through LIS/Extra Help, low income Medicare beneficiaries receive assistance in paying their monthly Medicare prescription premiums. The MSP provides additional assistance in paying Medicare premiums.

MIPPA funding provides additional resources to the participating agencies in providing expanded outreach and enrollment efforts to reach beneficiaries who may be eligible for LIS or MSP programs but are not currently enrolled. These resources also help support outreach and education on the Medicare disease prevention and wellness benefits.

These services are provided free of charge.

Eligibility

<i>Income</i>	Requirements for LIS/Extra Help are available at the National Council on Aging (NCOA) website. Requirements for the MSP are available at the U.S. Government Site for Medicare website.
<i>Age</i>	Outreach and enrollment assistance is provided for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individuals age 65 or older on Medicare.• Individuals younger than age 65 with a disability and on Medicare.• Individuals close to eligibility for Medicare and at least age 60.

<i>Other</i>	N/A.
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Access

Each participating agency conducts its own local outreach through public service announcements, fliers, articles, health fairs, presentations, social media, and other means. This outreach includes information telling Medicare recipients how to contact the agency for assistance related to LIS/Extra Help, MSP, and Medicare Part D. In addition, Medicare recipients can reach HICAPs through the statewide HICAP toll-free telephone number at **1-800-434-0222**.

Current State Fiscal Year Funding Information (2016-17)

<i>Source</i>	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living.
<i>Other Funding Information</i>	N/A.
<i>Match Requirements</i>	N/A.
<i>Funding Cycle</i>	September 30 – September 29.